and the establishment of the proposed Central Council of Rural Institutes for the implementation of the programme.

New Education Policy

1784. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress made in respect of implementation of New Education Policy; and

(b) whether all the schemes enumerated in the New Education Policy are being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) While a start was made during the year 1986-87 with some of the programmes of the NPE like the National Open University, Navodaya Vidyalayas, finalisation of the National Core Curriculum, Mass Programme of Functional Literacy, Mass Orientation of School Teachers, Establishment of Autonomous Colleges, Consolidation and Quality improvement in Higher Education, removal of obsolescence and modernisation in Technical Education, most of the major initiatives have been launched during the year 1987-88 which include the following:—

(i) 1,12,100 primary schools in 1720 blocks have been covered under the Scheme: Operation Blackboard, exceeding the target fixed for 1987-88.

(ii) State Governments/UTs/Voluntary Agencies have been assisted to set up 1.98 lakh non-formal education centres.

(iii) Preparatory work for setting up projects for education for Women's equality, in 4 districts of UP and 3 each in Karnataka and Gujarat has already started.

(iv) 98 DIETs in 14 States have been established. Approximately 4.42 lakh and 4.55 lakh school teachers have received orientation under the programme of Mass Orientation of School Teachers (MOST) during 1986-87 and 1987-88 respectively.

(v) Three to four vocational courses are being introduced in 700 schools in 16 states with central assistance.

(vi) 209 Navodaya Vidyalayas have been established

(vii) TV sets are being supplied to 10,000 schools and radio-cum-cassette players to 30,000 schools.

(viii) 17 States/UTs have been provided assistance for

(1) Providing Science kits to 18,604 Upper Primary Schools;

(2) Improving the laboratories of 7093 secondary and higher Secondary schools, and

(3) Improving the libraries of 7483 secondary and higher secondary schools.

(ix) The National curriculum framework has been formulated. The model curricula with minimum learing outcomes and common core components for all stages of school education has been published.

(x) The National Literacy Mission approved by Government has been launched as a Mass Campaign on 5th May, 1988. 30 million adults are expected to be made literate by 1990 and another 50 million by 1995.

(xi) IGNOU has started three diploma courses in Management, Creative Writing and Distance Education. A certificate course in Rural Development and a Preparatory Programme for people with no formal qualification to enable them to join the bachelors' degree has also been started. Detailed guidelines for establishment of other Open Universities has also been developed.

(xii) New guidelines framed and widely circulated lay emphasis on improvement of standards and quality of education, restructuring and diversification of courses. 48 colleges have been given autonomous status. Pay scales of teachers have been revised. Assistance has been given to encourage research, improve laboratory and library facilities.

(xiii) A scheme to upgrade educational level|opportunities to SC| ST has been launched to provide remedial|special coaching.

(xiv) 503 proposals have been sanctioned for modernisation and removal of obsolescence in the field of technical education. To create necessary infrastructure for education, research and training in selected technological institutions, 117 proposals have been sanctioned. For expansion of facilities in crucial areas of technology 76 proposals have been supported. The Bill to vest the All India Council for Technical Education with statutory powers has been passed in December, 1987.

A detailed Implementation Report indicating the progress made in 1987-88 was laid on the Table of the Sabha on 23rd March, 1988.

Heritage programmes

1785. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of heritage programmes which are in operation at present in India;

(b) whether there is any plan to include Ramappa Temple and Thousand Pillar Temple in Warangal district in Andhra Pradesh under this programme;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (d) The Ramappa Temple and Thousand Pillared temple are Centrally protected monuments and their preservation and conservation are taken up by the ASI. However, these monuments are not on the world heritage list. The conservation programmes are being taken on several monuments including 101 monuments identified for the purpose during the 7th Plan.

Vacancies in the urdu medium schools

1786. SHRI SHAMIM AHMED SIDDIQI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of vacancies in the urdu medium schools in Delhi;

(b) whether any action has been taken to fill up these vacancies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Name of railway Stations written in Urdu

1787. SHRI SHAMIM AHMED SIDDIQI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the name of Railway Stations written in Urdu are being rubbed off from the Boards;

(b) if so, whether this is being done under instructions from the Ministry of Railways or it is the handi-work of some officials;

(c) what is the total number of railway stations in Delhi and other parts of the country from which Urdu names have been removed; and